

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

MBFR-04 SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-10 ACDA-19 AEC-11 DRC-01

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2055

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INFO USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSAACLANT

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 4837

E.O. 11652: GDS 12-31-79

TAGS: PFOR NATO

SUBJECT: NPG - 8 OCT 1973 STAFF GROUP MEETING

REF: (A) USNATO 4726; (B) USNATO 4547; (C) STATE 197486

BEGIN SUMMARY: NPG STAFF GROUP (SG) AT 8 OCTOBER MEETING
(1) AGREED ON FINAL DUTCH REVISION TO PERM REPS REPORT TO
MINISTERS ON EARLY COMBINED USE (NPG/WP(73)11); (2) DISCUSSED
STATUS REPORT OF PHASE II AD HOC STUDY TEAM AND AGREED AD
REFERENDUM TO CAPITALS TO A MODIFICATION TO PERM REPS
COVERING REPORT; (3) AGREED THAT PHASE II STATUS REPORT
SHOULD BE ADDED AS AGENDA DOCUMENT UNDER "FUTURE WORK
PROGRAM" ON THE HAGUE MINISTERIAL AGENDA; AND (4) DISCUSSED
MODALITIES BY WHICH STUDY CALLED FOR IN ANKARA MINISTERIAL
MINUTE ON COMMUNICATING NATO'S INTENTIONS CONCERNING THE USE
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS MIGHT BE CONDUCTED. IN RESPONSE TO U.S.
QUESTION, DUTCH REP AFFIRMED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS ASKED
"NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE FOR PEACE RESEARCH" TO CONDUCT A
STUDY ON ROLE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN NATO STRATEGY, INCLUDING
CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSEQUENCES OF NATO AND/OR WP NON-FIRST USE DECLARATION.

END SUMMARY.

1. CHAIRMAN (SEIM) ANNOUNCED THAT DOCUMENTS APPROVED AT

PERM REPS MEETING ON 4 OCTOBER (REF. (A)) WILL BE CIRCULATED SHORTLY. MISSION WILL POUCH WHEN AVAILABLE.

2. AFTER BRIEF DISCUSSION, IN WHICH UK REP (STEWART) EXPRESSED BEWILDERMENT AS TO REASON FOR DUTCH CHANGE, SG AGREED TO FOLLOWING REVISION TO NPG/WP(73)11, PERM REPS REPORT ON EARLY COMBINED USE. PURSUANT TO AGREEMENT AT 4 OCTOBER PERM REPS MEETING, CHANGE HAD BEEN TENTATIVELY WORKED OUT BY DUTCH AND FRG DELEGATIONS:

DELETE PARA. 19(B) AND 19(C) AND REPLACE BY:
"(B) AGREE THAT THESE DOCUMENTS MAKE A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TOWARD PROVIDING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING BY POLITICAL AUTHORITIES WHEN ASSESSING IN AN ACTUAL CRISIS THE POSSIBLE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF EARLY COMBINED USE, AS ONE OF THE OPTIONS OPEN TO NATO WITHIN THE CURRENT STRATEGY."

CHANGE WILL BE REFLECTED IN EARLY COMBINED USE PAPER AND ISSUED AS DOCUMENT FOR MINISTERIAL MEETING.

3. SG FURTHER AGREED THAT PERM REPS REPORT ON STATUS OF WORK IN PROGRESS IN FOLLOW-ON USE WORK PROGRAM (REF. (B)) WITH PHASE II AD HOC STUDY TERM'S STATUS REPORT (REF. (C)) AS AN ANNEX, SHOULD BE ADDED AS A DOCUMENT FOR THE HAGUE

MINISTERIAL AGENDA UNDER ITEM VI "FUTURE WORK PROGRAM." SG EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST POSSIBLE IN NPG STUDY ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF NEW WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY, AS SUGGESTED BY PHASE II STUDY TEAM IN PARA. 5 OF ITS STATUS REPORT (REF. (C)). TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THIS SUGGESTION IN PERM REPS COVERING REPORT, SG AGREED, AD REFERENDUM TO CAPITALS, TO FOLLOWING RE-DRAFT OF PARA. 5 OF THAT REPORT (ORIGINAL TEXT TRANSMITTED IN REF. (B)):

"5. WE NOTE THAT PARAGRAPH 5 OF THE PHASE II STUDY TEAM STATUS REPORT POINTS OUT THAT CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS, ESPECIALLY IN THE FIELD OF NEW GUIDANCE SYSTEMS, COULD HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

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A POTENTIALLY IMPORTANT IMPACT ON THE WHOLE COMPLEX OF QUESTIONS SURROUNDING THE TACTICAL USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BUT OBSERVES THAT A FULL EXAMINATION OF THE SUBJECT WOULD BE BEYOND ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE. THE STUDY TEAM THEREFORE SUGGESTS THAT THE NPG SHOULD CONSIDER THE ADVISABILITY OF A SEPARATE STUDY OF THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF THESE NEW DEVELOPMENTS. WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THIS SUBJECT DESERVES FURTHER EXAMINATION. IN VIEW OF THE NATURE OF THE SUBJECT, WHICH IMPLIES THAT ADVICE FROM MILITARY AND TECHNICAL SOURCES WOULD ALSO BE NEEDED, THE WORK COULD PERHAPS BEST BE UNDERTAKEN BY AN AD HOC STUDY TEAM COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THOSE COUNTRIES INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING."

MISSION HAS NO PROBLEM WITH THIS FORMULATION. ACTION REQUESTED:
APPROVAL OR SUGGESTED MODIFICATION OF ABOVE REVISION OF PARA 5
IN TIME FOR NEXT NPG SG MEETING AT 3:00 P.M. 15 OCTOBER. IN
ABSENCE OF GUIDANCE, WE WILL ASSUME THAT ABOVE LANGUAGE IS
APPROVED.

4. IN BRIEF DISCUSSION OF NPG (STAFF GROUP) N (73)101
(POUCHED WASHINGTON) CONTAINING OUTLINE OF HOW SG (IN
ABSENCE OF COUNTRY VOLUNTEERS) MIGHT CONDUCT A STUDY ON
"COMMUNICATING NATO'S INTENTIONS." (SEE ANKARA MINISTERIAL
MINUTE, PARA 16), UK REP, SUPPORTED BY U.S. AND NORWAY,
MADE STRONG PLEA FOR COUNTRIES NOT PARTICIPATING IN
PHASE II WORK TO STEP FORWARD AND VOLUNTEER TO TAKE PART
IN THE STUDY. U.S. AND NORWEGIAN REPS BOTH REITERATED
EARLIER WILLINGNESS OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO PARTICIPATE,
BUT NORWEGIAN SAID HIS COUNTRY COULD NOT SERVE AS
CHAIRMAN.

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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2056
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 4837

5. UNDER "ANY OTHER BUSINESS," U.S. REP ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION OF REFERENCE WHICH DUTCH CHANGE HAD MADE AT 4 OCTOBER PERM REPS MEETING TO WORK OF "NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE FOR PEACE RESEARCH". NETHERLANDS REP (VAN VALDEREN) SAID THAT NEW DUTCH GOVERNMENT HAS ASKED INSTITUTE (AN ORGANIZATION SOME THREE YEARS OLD) TO CONDUCT A STUDY AND GIVE ADVICE ON THE ROLE WHICH NUCLEAR WEAPONS MIGHT PLAY IN NATO'S DOCTRINE OF FLEXIBLE RESPONSE. IN

PARTICULAR, HE SAID, THE INSTITUTE HAS BEEN ASKED TO STUDY THE CONSEQUENCES OF EITHER UNILATERAL OR MUTUAL DECLARATIONS BY NATO OR THE WARSAW PACT TO ABSTAIN FROM FIRST USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION FROM NORWEGIAN REP, VAN VALDEREN SAID HE WAS NOT SURE WHETHER OR NOT INSTITUTE (WHICH HE INDICATED HAD SOME GOVERNMENTAL CONNECTION) WOULD USE CLASSIFIED INFORMATION IN ITS STUDY. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY FURTHER INFORMATION WASHINGTON OR EMBASSY THE HAGUE MAY HAVE ON THIS INSTITUTE AND THE STUDY IN QUESTION. A STUDY WHICH RECOMMENDED NATO DECLARATION OF NON-FIRST USE COULD, CONFIDENTIAL

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OF COURSE, BE TROUBLESOME IF ESPoused BY NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT AND ADVANCED IN NATO.

6. AT ITS NEXT MEETING ON 15 OCTOBER, SG WILL HOLD INITIAL DISCUSSION OF PHASE II STUDY TEAM'S PAPER ON "ASPECTS OF DETERRENCE" (MENTIONED IN PARA 4 OF ITS STATUS REPORT, REF, C) ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE CONCERNING ANY POINTS ON DETERRENCE PAPER WHICH WASHINGTON WISHES U.S. REP TO MAKE AT THAT MEETING.

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